

## IN THE CLAIMS:

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1. (Four Times Amended) A method of evaluating line item data, the method comprising the steps of:

displaying at least one line item of an insurance related claim;

accessing a database of excluded vendors and authorized vendors to fulfill said insurance related claim;

displaying a list of authorized vendors and a list of excluded vendors that correspond with the at least one line item, wherein the authorized vendors are from the group consisting of vendors with a preferred status, franchised vendors, or vendors that allow an upgrade;

accessing vendor data associated with the list of authorized vendors and the list of excluded vendors;

receiving a selection of at least one vendor from the list of authorized vendors to fulfill said insurance related claim; and

receiving authorization from a claim handler to execute payment of the selected at least one line item of said insurance related claim.

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15. (Four Times Amended) A system for evaluating line item data, comprising:

a processor for executing programs; and

a memory for storing a program executable by the processor, the stored program including instructions for (i) displaying at least one line item of said insurance related claim; (ii) accessing a database of vendors having a list of authorized vendors and a list of excluded vendors to fulfill said insurance related claim; (iii) displaying the list of authorized vendors and the list of excluded vendors that correspond with the at least one line item, wherein the authorized vendors are from the group consisting of vendors with a preferred status, franchised vendors, or vendors that allow an upgrade; (iv) accessing vendor data associated with the list of authorized vendors and the list of excluded vendors; (v) receiving a selection of at least one vendor from the list of authorized vendors to fulfill said insurance related claim; and (vi) receiving authorization from a claim handler to execute payment of the selected at least one line item of said insurance related claim.

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29. (Four Times Amended) A computer readable medium containing instructions for controlling a computer system to perform a method for evaluating line item data, the method comprising:

displaying at least one line item of an insurance related claim;

accessing a database of excluded vendors and authorized vendors to fulfill said insurance related claim;

93 displaying a list of authorized vendors and a list of excluded vendors that correspond with the at least one line item, wherein the authorized vendors are from the group consisting of vendors with a preferred status, franchised vendors, or vendors that allow an upgrade;

accessing vendor data associated with the list of authorized vendors and the list of excluded vendors;

receiving a selection of at least one vendor from the list of authorized vendors to fulfill said insurance related claim; and

receiving authorization from a claim handler to execute payment of the selected at least one line item of said insurance related claim.

44. (Three Times Amended) A method of evaluating line item data, the method comprising the steps of:

displaying at least one line item of an insurance related claim;

accessing a database having a list of excluded vendors and authorized vendors to fulfill said insurance related claim;

94 comparing the list of authorized vendors and the list of excluded vendors with the at least one line item, wherein the authorized vendors are from the group consisting of vendors with a preferred status, franchised vendors, or vendors that allow an upgrade;

displaying vendor data on the availability of the upgrade for the at least one line item;

receiving a selection of at least one vendor from the list of authorized vendors that corresponds with the at least one line item to fulfill said insurance related claim; and